

**DISTRICT VI ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES**

**Wednesday  
March 1, 2004  
7:00 p.m.**

**Evergreen Neighborhood Center  
2700 N. Woodland  
Club/Lounge room**

The District VI Advisory Board Meeting was held at 7:00 P.M. at Evergreen Recreation club lounge room. In attendance were the District VI City Council Member, (10) District Advisory Board Members, five (5) city staff, and approximately six (6) citizens. Approximately (21) were in attendance.

**Members Present**

Sandra Whittington  
Annie Best  
Maurine Willis  
Rosalie Bradley  
Rick Shellenbarger  
Dick Rumsey  
Bob Wine  
Paul Daemen  
Rob Johnson, Alt  
John Guthridge, Alt

**Member Absent**

Bob Schreck  
Bickley Foster  
Jaya Escobar

**Guests**

Listed at end

**Staff**

Forest Nagley, Transit  
Joe Botinelly, Water & Sewer  
Jerry Blain, Water & Sewer  
CP Officer Glen Kyle, Patrol West  
Vicki Mork, Neighborhood Assistant

**Council Member Fearey** called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and welcomed guests. DAB members were asked to introduce themselves and give the area they represent.

**Approval of Minutes**

There were no minutes for approval

**Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as submitted. **(Rumsey/Daeman10-0)**

**Public Agenda**

No one requested to speak.

**Staff Presentation**

**1. Community Police Report**

*Officer Kyle, Beat 11 Coordinator, Patrol West* reported there are ongoing problems with auto larcenies on South Seneca Street for the past 2 weeks. Vandalism in west Wichita is on the rise. The police are working on solving these issues. *Kyle* also explained police is scheduling a special assignment for underage juvenile drinking during Spring Break. There have been thefts from garages that have been left open.

2. **Recertification of Para transit eligible passengers.**

**Forrest Nagley**, with Wichita Transit Authority presented the plan to recertify Para transit eligible riders. He began by explaining there had been a 322 percent increase in Para transit riders since 1992, from 75,000 to 320,000. The application process used by the City to determine Para transit eligibility was implemented in 1992. Persons can qualify for these services depending upon their cognitive and/or physical condition. Presently persons qualify for Para transit services based on self-certification with verification by personal physicians or agency officials.

Since 1992 WTA has made many advances to accommodate disabled riders. The program now features expanded full fixed bus route accessibility, a Para transit scheduling package, upgraded van fleet, expanded access to jobs and is planning to offer education to clients being shifted from van service to fixed route so they will be fully informed on riding the bus.

A Mobility Advisory Task Force was authorized by Wichita's City Manager and included members from the City of Wichita, Sedgwick County Department on Aging and local service agencies, Kansas Elks Training Center, Independent Living Resource Center, and COM Care. They propose that all current users of Para transit system be reevaluated. Functional and cognitive assessments would be conducted on all current users by a qualified third-party. This system would determine the extent of cognitive and function disabilities for the clients and recommend appropriate mode of transportation, i.e. fixed route bus or Para transit services.

DAB member questions were kicked off by **Bradley** asking about the source of funding for this project, **Nagley** explained the Americans with Disabilities Act was an unfunded Federal mandate and the funds for this project were coming from general revenue. **Daemen** asked about contributing factors to the increase in rider ship but **Nagley** had no information. **Daemen** was also concerned with cost savings projected in the WTA report. **Nagley** agreed that some of the cost projections did not make sense but the bottom line is Wichita is required to meet the ADA criteria of providing Para transit services to riders based on their functional and cognitive abilities.

**Bradley** was concerned about disabled persons who lived at a distance from a fixed route bus stop, **Nagley** explained the location of a person's residence was not part of the ADA criteria however, the Wichita City Council has always been as accommodating as possible for such individuals. **Wine** asked if the City of Wichita could selectively evaluate or challenge riders but **Nagley** said that was not an option. He also explained that granting rights for Para transit services as significant as courts were beginning to regard it much like property rights. **Bradley** asked if Para transit fares could be increased but was informed that is not an option without a hike in regular bus fares. **Daemon** supported 3<sup>rd</sup> party evaluation of the riders. **Best** stated she thought the increase in riders was connected to the graying of America and she endorsed training riders to use the fixed route buses.

Audience members **Richard Slane** had questions regarding the timing of his disabled daughter's bus service; he said lately she had been waiting much longer than usual. Arrangements were made for him to speak with **Nagley** after the meeting.

\*\*\*\*\***Action Taken:** Motion made to support staff recommendation and support the plan for recertifying Para transit riders (**Best/Willis10-0**).

3. **Conversion of 15<sup>th</sup> Street Right of Way to Utility Easement**

**Jerry Blain**, Water and Sewer Department explained a graphic showing the sewer line crossing the Arkansas River around 15<sup>th</sup> Street. The sewer line is collapsing and needs to be replaced. A couple of different options will be presented. He introduced *Lynn Moore*, consulting engineer. He explained the options are to replace and install a new sewer pipe crossing river gravity feed with buried pipeline or construct new sewer pump station and demolish old equipment. An alternate site for the pump station could be north of Fifteen Street. But *Moore* and city staff recommends placing the pump station on Fifteenth Street and closing it off.

This location will minimize effects on riverbank views, landscaping and add security as it is a more secure site and will be walled in. The cost of either location of the pump station is estimated at \$425,000 and can be force drilled across the river. To locate the pump station on the east side of the river is estimated at \$ 675,000 because it is a gravity line, the sewer line would have to be trenched which would involve blocking the river, a more expensive approach. The concept sketch of the 15<sup>th</sup> St Pump Station shows a cast concrete stone look walled enclosure with no roof. It would be 30 foot square and located about 10 feet away from the houses on either side of the street. A couple of examples of pump stations were shown.

**Guthridge** said the slide of the Tippin Court sewer station was rather misleading. He said a petition had to be done to get a building cover and said neighbors weren't contacted. **Blain** said these were concepts designed to look like a garage. **Guthridge** asked about the smell that emanates from the building, said it was intrusive to the neighborhood and the process to place them needs to be looked at. In this case the pump station is to be so close to neighboring property wonders if it could have been placed better.

**Bradley** asked if there would be an odor but **Blain** said there would be no odor at lift station now and doesn't anticipate that problem. **Blain** says adjustments can be made if odor arises. **Daemen** says the plan looks like the cheapest way but he is concerned as a realtor that this type of placement would negatively affect adjacent property value. He asked if the street would be paved but **Blain** explained since the road is going to be abandoned it will be seeded for grass. **Shellenbarger** asked if it has to be square or could it be rectangular. **Blain** said they will work on the structure design with adjacent homeowners and it could be 18' x 30'.

**Willis** asked if screening requirements for these buildings were different that the older one at 37<sup>th</sup> St. North. **CM Fearey** says she never even noticed the building on 37<sup>th</sup> Street. **Willis** says this pump has not reduced property values and is not a problem at all.

**Council Member Fearey** asked for assurance from Water and Sewer Department that property owners will be involved and was told that would be the case. **Wine** asked what happens to old line. **Blain** explained it would be abandoned after capping both ends.

**Barry Davis**, 1600 Jeanette property owner adjacent to the proposed project said he supported the 15<sup>th</sup> St. pump station. He's been working with the City and engineering

company and is comfortable with them. They have answered all of his questions and he supports their efforts 100 percent and he's very pleased about closing 15<sup>th</sup> Street. The neighbor from the other side of the street, **Delora Donovan** stated she supported closing 15<sup>th</sup> Street also. She says there has been constant traffic on the dirt road and she supported the project 100 percent.

**\*\*\*\*\*Action Taken:** Motion for the proposed option for 15<sup>th</sup> pump station be approved.  
(**Rumsey /Johnson 10-0**)

#### **Board Agenda**

**4. DAB Meeting planning presentations process.**

**CM Fearey** referred to previously discussed controversial planning cases. She explained Neighborhood Assistant, Terri Dozal will post rules for audience conduct available for review when they sign in. This procedure will be implemented for the March planning meeting.

**Rumsey** made the point that planning staff and applicant presentations are not time limited but audience members are limited to 3 minutes. He's concerned about the inequity and states it is not fair. **CM Fearey** said DAB could limit applicants but not willing to limit staff. **Fearey** says a time schedule might be helpful. Ten minutes for staff, 10 minutes for DAB questions, 10 minutes for applicant, 3 minutes per questionnaire, and 15 minutes for DAB. All these would be the maximum time allowed. If DAB members submit additional suggestions to Terri she will put the written suggestions in Sharon's packet to be read.

**5. Problem Properties**

**Willis** reports the Smoke shop on 33<sup>rd</sup> and Amidon is a problem. **Guthridge** reports 11<sup>th</sup> and Biting has graffiti behind the Riverside Perk. Kent Steiner is the property owner.

**\*\*\*\*\*Action Taken: Receive and propose appropriate action.**

**6. Neighborhood Reports**

**Bradley** reports there is advertising all over the garage at Porter and Julianne for the "Fix It Man" and wonders when advertisements become graffiti.

**7. Updates From The Council Member**

**CM Fearey** announced that March 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. there will be a meeting at the Evergreen Neighborhood City Hall regarding accessory garage planning case. She said many recommendations and a petition had been received.

**Fearey** also reviewed the portable storage container issue that is to be voted on Tuesday. She said District VI didn't want it to become permanent. **Fearey** says agenda item for tomorrow allows permanence with more screening requirements with a fence or berm.

**Guthridge** asked if moving pods dropped off at residential property were considered storage containers. Would storage containers being accumulated at properties along Broadway be considered in the same category?

**Whittington** asked if these containers were for use only in commercial areas or could they be used in residential areas also? **CM Fearey** said she would try to find out before voting.

\*\*\*\*\***Action Taken:** Motion was made for the Council Member to bring the portable storage issue back to DAB's. **(Best/Daemen 10-0)**

**Willis (Johnson)** moved to adjourn

**Guests**

Beverly Penrod	315 N. Riverview #210
Barry Davis	1600 Jeanette
Richarld Slang	1616 W. 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Berle Willis	3834 Woodrow
Jerry Prichard	1607 N. Clarence
Ken Thomas	P.O. Box 4047 or 2300 N. Broadway

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki Mork